S.No.	State/U.T.	No. of Reports	Surplus Power capacity (in MW)
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1	11.50
4.	Maharashtra	6	84.10
5.	Pondicherry	1	8.40
6.	Tamil Nadu	5	41.00
7.	Uttar Pradesh	3	19.20

13 bagasse based cogeneration projects have already been established by sugar mills in three States, aggregating to a surplus power generation capacity of 42 MW. A capacity of 49 MW is at an advanced stage of implementation. Further progress by sugar mills will depend upon finalisation of equipment, necessary statutory clearances, financial closure, signing of Power Purchase Agreement with the State Electricity Boards, etc.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award

*550. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-tem regarding irregularities in awarding the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for 1995 appearing in the 'Statesman' dated November 16, 1995 and the 'Economic Times' dated June 20, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government/CSIR propose to take steps to ensure that this award is given only to those scientists who undertake work in India so as to promote technical/scientific work in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both the news items pertained to the Bhatnagar Prize in Physical Sciences for the year, 1995 given by CSIR to two Scientists. The news item in Statesman reported that the rule concerning eligibility of the award namely "that the Award be given to Scientists for research contributions made in India, primarily during the five years preceding the year of the prize" was flouted in this case.

The news item in Economic Times reported that while resolving the controversy, CSIR had not honoured the assurance that it gave to the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, to set up a new Committee to go into the Awards issue afresh. The facts are that to resolve the controversy, CSIR had constituted a new High Powered Committee with the approval of the then Vice-President, CSIR consisting of experts who were not already members of the Advisory Committee which had recommended the awards earlier. The new High Powered Committee considered afresh all the nominations and recommended that the award be given to Dr. M. Barma, who fulfilled all the eligibility criteria. CSIR did honour its commitment to the High Court to set up the new Committee.

(c) CSIR will ensure that the award is given only for research contributions made primarily in India during the five years preceding the year of the prize.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Crude Oil Production

*551. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether crude oil production during 1996-97 lagged behind previous year's level;

(b) if so, the production of crude oil during 1996-97 upto July 31, 1996 and the percentage of shortfall in production in comparison to 1995-96;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall;

(d) the target of production of crude oil fixed for 1996-97; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Crude oil production target for 1996-97 is 36.312 MMT. The production during April to July 1996 was 10.650 MMT which is around 10% less than the production of 11.833 MMT during the corresponding period of the previous year. The reasons for shortfall in production are—

— Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of BRBC, especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour, not in conformity with earlier predictions.

— Subdued activities in ERBC due to continued adverse operating conditions.

(e) Various steps taken to increase indigenous production of crude oil are—

(i) Development of new fields and additional development of existing fields.

(ii) Implementation of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Schemes and extension of some EOR schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.